Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 CAB-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 /034 W

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R 061233Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 421 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY ROME USCINCEUR CINCUSAFE

UNCLAS ATHENS 4197

BRUSSELS FOR FAA; ROME FOR RCAA AND FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, BENC, MARR, GR

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: PLANS FOR PROPOSED SPATA AIRPORT ANNOUNCED

REF: ATHENS 0078

1. COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER GEORGE VOYATZIS STATED ON MAY 5 THAT GROUND IS EXPECTED TO BE BROKEN ON THE PROPOSED AIRPORT SITE AT SPATA IN ABOUT A YEAR. HE ADDED THAT THE MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN REVIEWING THE MASTER PLAN PREPARED BY AEROPORT DE PARIS/FLUGHAFEN FRANKFURT MAIN/ARONIS-DRETTAS-KARLAFTIS, WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR SUBMISSION IN FINAL FORM BYJUNE 15, 1977. THE MINISTER INDICATED THAT THE FINAL DESIGN MAY BE BROKEN DOWN INTO SEVERAL PORTIONS AND AWARDED IN STAGES TO FOREIGN AND LOCAL FIRMS. THIS METHOD WILL ALLOW FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION UPON COMPLETION OF FIRST PORTION OF FINAL DESIGN. THE MINISTRY IS ALSO CONSIDERING METHODS OF FINANCING THE PROJECT. A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE COSTS WILL BE COVERED BY THE SALE OF 3,000 STEMMAS (750 ACRES), OR ONE HALF OF THE AREA OF THE EXISTING AIRPORT AT HELLINIKON. UNCLASSIFIED

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2. COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER'S STATEMENT IS APPARENTLY BASED ON ANTICIPATION OF FAVORABLE LAND VALUATION DECISION FROM APPELLATE COURT DUE SOMETIME IN MAY PER REFTEL. KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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